

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 were pending. Applicant has amended claims 5, 14 and 16, canceled claims 1-4, 6, 13, 15 and 17-35, and added claims 36-49. Claims 5, 7-12, 14, 16 and 36-49 are pending after entry of the amendment. The applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the amendment and remarks.

Restriction

The prior admission of obviousness of claims 30-35 over claims 1-17 is withdrawn in light of the amendment to the claims, specifically the cancellation of claims 1-5. Claims 17-35 have been cancelled.

Section 103 Rejections

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,358,130 to Freeman et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Freeman") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,537,133 to Birang et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Birang").

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,524,164 (hereinafter referred to as "Tolles") in view of Birang.

Claims 2 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Freeman or Tolles in view of Birang and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,832,950 to Wright et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Wright").

Claims 7 and 14-16 were objected to as being dependent from a rejected base claim, but the Examiner indicated that the claims would be allowable rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has substantially followed the Examiner's suggestions.

With respect to claim 5, the limitation from claim 15 has been added that the adhesive layer has an opening to allow an optical monitoring system to monitor a substrate through the window member. The requirement that the supporting layer span the opening and support the

window member has been moved to the preceding paragraph. In addition, because the adhesive layer has an opening, the option that the adhesive layer span the opening and support the window member has been deleted as irrelevant.

With respect to claim 14, the limitations from independent claim 5 have been added, except that because the supporting layer includes an aperture and the window member extends through the aperture in the supporting layer, the option that the supporting layer span the opening and support the window member has been deleted as irrelevant.

With respect to claim 16, the limitations from independent claim 5 have been added, except that the claim has been clarified that at least one of the supporting layer or the adhesive layer spans the opening and supports the window member.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are now allowable.

Petition for Extension of Time

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136, applicant hereby petitions that the period for response to the action dated December 11, 2006, be extended for one month to and including April 11, 2007.

The extension fee in the amount of \$120 is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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